

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Hisorshi NISHIMOTO

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: December 28, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

For: OPTICAL NODE DEVICE AND SIGNAL SWITCHING AND  
CONNECTION METHOD

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

Claim 3,

line 1, change "3" to --2--.

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the specification as originally-filed, and to correct a typographical error.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-

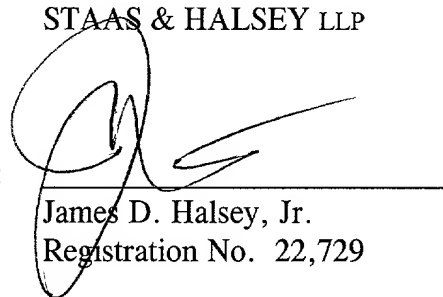
referenced application.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JDH", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

James D. Halsey, Jr.  
Registration No. 22,729

700 Eleventh Street, N.W.  
Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 434-1500

Date: December 28, 2000